

Our Lincolnshire Declaration on improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis signed December 2014

OUR COMMITMENT

We, as partner organisations in Lincolnshire, will work together to put in place the principles of the national **Concordat** to improve the system of care and support so that people in crisis because of a mental health condition are kept safe.

OUR PROMISES TO YOU

- We will treat you with dignity and respect, challenging inappropriate attitudes
- We will help you to find the help you need – whatever the circumstances – from whichever of our services you turn to first.
- We will work together to prevent crises happening whenever possible, offering help and support at an early stage.
- We will meet you and your carers needs in urgent situations, getting the right care at the right time from the right people to make sure of the best outcomes.
- We will improve waiting times and access to services in Lincolnshire
- We will make sure that all relevant agencies or services support people with a mental health problem to help recovery. Everybody who signs this declaration will work towards developing ways of sharing information to help front line staff provide better responses to people in crisis.
- If you are in the care of the Police, we will work together with other agencies to ensure we provide timely advice and appropriate support.
- We will do everything in our power to ensure that anyone under 18 in mental health crisis is not detained in police custody.
- A police station will only be used as a Place of Safety in exceptional circumstances or as a last resort.
- We will consider all pathways as an alternative to admission to a mental health unit or hospital.
- If you cannot get to hospital for voluntarily admission, or are detained under the Mental Health Act we will provide safe, timely and appropriate transport.

Jointly, we hold ourselves accountable for delivering this commitment and our promises across Lincolnshire by putting in place, reviewing and regularly updating our action plan.

We, the organisations listed below, support this Declaration.

Lincolnshire County Council	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's)	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
NHS England Local Area Team (Primary Care Commissioners)	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Police	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Ambulance Service	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire NHS Partnership Foundation Trust	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
United Lincolnshire Hospitals Trust	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Public Health	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Community Health Services	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Addaction	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Carers Partnership	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 
Lincolnshire Shine Network	We are committed to working together to continue to improve crisis care for people with mental health needs in Lincolnshire 

Many other local organisations want to support this Declaration because of their commitment to improve mental health care and may make a specific contribution within our action plan for continuous improvements.

This declaration supports equality ('parity of esteem' - see the glossary) between physical and mental health care in the following ways:

- Through everyone agreeing a shared 'care pathway' to safely support, assess and manage anyone who asks any of our services in Lincolnshire for help in a crisis. This will result in the best outcomes for people with suspected serious mental illness, provide advice and support for their carers', and make sure that services work together safely and effectively.
- Through agencies working together to improve individuals' experience (professionals, people who use crisis care services, and carers) and reduce the likelihood of harm to the health and wellbeing of patients, carers and professionals.
- By making sure there is a safe and effective service with clear and agreed policies and procedures in place for people in crisis, and that organisations can access the service and refer people to it in the same way as they would for physical health and social care services.
- By all organisations who sign this declaration working together and accepting our responsibilities to reduce the likelihood of future harm to staff, carers, patients and service users or the wider community and to support people's recovery and wellbeing.



Glossary of terms used in this declaration

<p>Concordat</p>	<p>A document published by the Government.</p> <p>The Concordat is a shared, agreed statement, signed by senior representatives from all the organisations involved. It covers what needs to happen when people in mental-health crisis need help.</p> <p>Title: Mental Health Crisis Care Concordat – Improving outcomes for people experiencing mental health crisis Author: Department of Health and Concordat signatories Document purpose: Guidance Publication date: 18th February 2014</p> <p>Link: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/281242/36353_Mental_Health_Crisis_accessible.pdf</p>
<p>Mental health crisis</p>	<p>When people – of all ages – with mental health problems urgently need help because of their suicidal behaviour, panic attacks or extreme anxiety, psychotic episodes, or behaviour that seems out of control or irrational and likely to put the person (or other people) in danger.</p>
<p>Parity of esteem</p>	<p>Parity of esteem is when mental health is valued equally with physical health. If people become mentally unwell, the services they use will assess and treat mental health disorders or conditions on a par with physical illnesses.</p> <p>Further information: http://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/qual-clin-lead/pe</p>
<p>Recovery</p>	<p>One definition of Recovery within the context of mental health is from Dr. William Anthony:</p> <p>“Recovery is a deeply personal, unique process changing one’s attitude, values, feelings, goals, skills, and/or roles. It is a way of living a satisfying, hopeful, and contributing life. Recovery involves the development of new meaning and purpose in one’s life as one grows beyond the catastrophic effects of psychiatric disability” (Anthony, 1993)</p> <p>Further information http://www.imroc.org/</p>